

## Message from the Regional Administrator

### April 2004

I am pleased to present our Regional Strategic Plan, which will guide Region 8's work through fiscal year 2008. With a focus on environmental results, our Regional Plan provides a broad view of regional strategies to achieve the five goals identified in EPA's National Strategic Plan: clean air and global climate change; clean and safe water; land preservation and restoration; healthy communities and ecosystems; and, compliance and environmental stewardship. In upcoming years, we will supplement the Regional Plan with annual regional commitments and targets.

The wealth of Region 8's natural resources, coupled with rapidly increasing growth and economic development, present unique challenges in environmental protection. The Regional Strategic Plan articulates these challenges and presents strategies to overcome them. Our five unique priorities - agriculture, direct implementation, energy, homeland security and revitalization - have been developed in response to regional challenges and are reviewed in the plan's overview and integrated into each subsequent goal and section.

In the upcoming years, EPA Region 8 and our partners will work diligently to fulfill the goals and strategies discussed in the following pages. This plan will help the Region and our partners achieve EPA's mission to safeguard the natural environment and protect human health. I thank our state and tribal partners and the Agency for their assistance in developing this plan.

Robert E. Roberts  
Regional Administrator